

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NEAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 L-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7379

SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR

DA WASHDC

CSAF WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

S E C R E T KUWAIT 2910

SECDEF FOR ISA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS KU

SUBJ: PERMANENT US MILITARY MISSION IN KUWAIT

REF: A) USCINCEUR 101821Z AUG 73; B) KUWAIT 2762

SUMMARY: WE HAVE REVIEWED USCINCEUR PROPOSAL FOR A US MILITARY MISSION IN KUWAIT AND CONCUR IN PROPOSED POSTIONS A, C, E, F, AND G, REF A, EXCEPT FOR LEVEL OF RANK (05); POSITIONS B AND D, HOWEVER, DO NOT MEET NEEDS OF LOCAL SITUATION. POSITIONS (2), (4) AND (5), REF B, HOWEVER, DO MEET LOCAL REQUIREMENTS AND ARE RECOMMENDED. END SUMMARY

1. DURING MY TRIP TO GERMANY LAST WEEK, I HAD OPPORTUNITY TO STOP BY CINCEUR TO DISCUSS FORMATION OF US MILITARY MISSION IN KUWAIT. OUR DISCUSSIONS CENTERED PRINCIPALLY AROUND PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED
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WITH ACTUALLY ESTABLISHING SUCH A GROUP, SPECIFICALLY, TERMS OF REFERENCE, SUPPORT, ETC. WE DID NOT DISCUSS THE STRUCTURE OF THIS GROUP IN DETAIL BUT I DID MENTION OUR DESIRE FOR A CONSERVATIVE RANK STRUCTURE AND REASONS BEHIND IT. IT WAS AGREED THAT I WOULD

REVIEW USCINCEUR RECOMMENDATIONS WHEN SUBMITTED AND PROVIDE COMMENTS.

2. WE AGREED THAT SAMPLES OF US AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD BE USEFUL TO US HERE IN PROPOSING ARRANGEMENTS WITH GOK. AS STATED REF A, CONTENT OF IRAN AGREEMENT MIGHT HAVE SOME RELEVANCE TO KUWAIT SITUATION. I WOULD APPRECIATE A COPY OF THIS AND ANY OTHER AGREEMENTS THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED APPLICABLE TO ANY DEGREE.

3. RE ORGANIZATION OF MISSION, PROPOSAL IN REF A REGARDING DESIRABILITY OF GENERALISTS MANNING BILLETS CERTAINLY HAS MERIT IN LONG RUN. THIS PHILOSOPHY ATTRACTIVE IN ON-GOING SITUATION WHERE ESSENTIAL MILITARY CAPABILITIES ARE LARGELY ESTABLISHED. KUWAIT, HOWEVER, PRESENTS EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH, WE BELIEVE, REQUIRE CAPABILITIES OF POSITIONS (2), (4), AND (5) REF B, INSTEAD OF POSITIONS B AND D OUTLINED REF A.

4. DURING OUR ORIGINAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE KUWAITIS REGARDING THE DESIRED AMERICAN ADVISORY ROLE, THE CHIEF OF STAFF, GENERAL MUBARAK, POINTED OUT THAT THE PRINCIPAL KUWAITI CONCERN WAS AIR DEFENSE AND URGED US TO PROVIDE STRONG SUPPORT IN THIS AREA, TACTICALLY AND TECHNICALLY. HE ADDITIONALLY STATED THAT GOK DESIRED THAT THE BRITISH RETAIN THE PRINCIPAL GROUND ADVISORY ROLE. (THIS BACKGROUND, IMPORTANT TO THE RATIONALE BEHIND OUR RECOMMENDATIONS IN REF B, WAS UNFORTUNATELY OMITTED FROM THAT MESSAGE AND MAY BE THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR RECOMMENDATIONS AND THOSE PROVIDED BY USCINCEUR).

5. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE STRONG SUPPORT IT AIR DEFENSE, WE HAVE INCLUDED STAFF POSITIONS REPRESENTING ESSENTIAL AREAS, I.E. AIR OPERATIONS, AIR DEFENSE COMMAND AND CONTROL, AND COMMUNICATIONS.

6. RE AIR OPERATIONS, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH KAF HAS HIGH PERFORMANCE AIRCRAFT, IT COMPLETELY LACKS SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE AND ITS PILOTS DO NOT HAVE A PROPER CONCEPT OF WHAT THEY MUST BE IF THEY ARE EVER TO HAVE EFFECTIVE FLYING
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SQUADRONS. THE PRESENCE IN KUWAIT OF AN EXPERIENCED AMERICAN PILOT WHO CAN WORK WITH KUWAITI PILOTS AND DEMONSTRATE THE BROAD-SCOPE CONTRIBUTIONS WE EXPECT OF A TACTICAL PILOT IS ESSENTIAL TO THEIR OBTAINING THIS FUNDAMENTAL UNDERSTANDING. THIS WAS PROVIDED FOR IN POSITION (4), REF B (ELIMINATED IN REF A).

7. WITH REGARD TO AIR DEFENSE, WE DO NOT REALLY NEED ANYONE AT THIS TIME WHOSE ORIENTATION IS GENERALLY TOWARD OPERATION OF AN AIR DEFENSE CENTER -- THERE IS NO CENTER. AT THIS STAGE WE NEED SOMEONE WHO PRIMARILY WOULD BE USEFUL DURING DELIBERATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH DEVELOPING ONE. THIS DEVELOPMENT CYCLE WILL NOT PROCEED SERIATIM FROM CONCEPT TO DEVELOPMENT OF EQUIPMENT. IN FACT WE SHOULD ASSUME THAT MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED. THERE-

FORE, STAFF FUNCTION PROPOSED IS COGNIZANCE OVER INTEGRATION OF THIS EQUIPMENT WITH YET UNIDENTIFIED EQUIPMENT INTO AN EFFECTIVE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM. DUE TO INTERRELATIONSHIP OF EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE PARAMETERS AND METHOD OF EMPLOYMENT, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE HAVE SOMEONE AVAILABLE WHO IS FAMILIAR WITH BOTH. AS VARIOUS TEAMS OF EXPERTS OR CONTRACTORS COME AND GO, THIS INDIVIDUAL WOULD PROVIDE COUNTER-BALANCING CONTINUITY. HE WOULD BE FAMILIAR NOT ONLY WITH OPERATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS BUT ALSO ACTUAL INTEGRATION OF THIS SAME EQUIPMENT. TO PROVIDE AN OFFICER WITH THIS EXPERTISE WE HAVE INCLUDED POSITION (5), REF B, TO BE FILLED BY AN OFFICER WITH THESE QUALIFICATIONS.

8. ROLE OF COMMUNICATIONS IN THE EVOLVING SYSTEM IS UNUSUALLY BROAD. IT INCLUDES PROVIDING FOR AIR DEFENSE, FIRE SUPPORT COORDINATION, AIR SUPPORT, AND THE COMMAND FUNCTION IN A JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER. THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM AT KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WILL PROBABLY INTERFACE WITH THE JOC AS WELL AS PROVIDE A JOINT MILITARY/CIVILIAN ATC FUNCTION. REMOTE SENSORS, OUTPOSTS, MISSILES, AND A VARIETY OF OTHER FACILITIES MUST BE TIED INTO THE COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM. NONE OF THIS EXISTS NOW. TO PROVIDE FOR STAFF COGNIZANCE IN THIS AREA POSITION (2) WAS INCLUDED IN REF B. WE BELIEVE THIS POSITION IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE CONTINUITY AND OVERALL COORDINATION IN THIS EFFORT THAT IS LIKELY TO INVOLVE VARIOUS CONTRACTORS AND TECHNICAL TEAMS.

9. IN VIEW OF DOMINANT BRITISH GROUND ADVISORY ROLE, POSITION B, REF A IS NOT CONSIDERED AN ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENT.

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10. FINALLY, WITH REGARD TO RANK OF MISSION OFFICERS, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE KUWAITI ARMED FORCES ARE SMALL AND THAT THEY HAVE FEW OFFICERS ABOVE RANK OF MAJOR. A RANK STRUCTURE, APPROPRIATE FOR MISSIONS IN LARGER COUNTRIES, MIGHT BE GROSSLY OUT OF PLACE AND AWKWARD HERE. FOR EXAMPLE, SQUADRON COMMANDERS (FOR LIGHTNING AND HUNTER) ARE MAJORS, THEIR PRINCIPAL STAFF MEMBER FOR ENTIRE MILITARY PROCUREMENT PROGRAM IS A LT COL, THEIR PRINCIPAL ARMOR OFFICER (GENERAL STAFF) IS A LT COL WITH A DATE OF RANK OF MAY 1973. THESE EXAMPLES ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF OTHER PRINCIPAL BILLETS. I WILL NOT ATTEMPT TO JUDGE RELATIVE POTENTIAL OF A MAJOR (LT CDR) AND A LT COL (CDR) IN OUR BILLETS, BUT IF, BY DILIGENT SEARCH, SUITABLE OFFICERS CAN BE FOUND WITH LESS RANK THAN 05, IT WOULD BE HIGHLY PREFERABLE.

11. IN SUM, I CONCUR IN POSITIONS PROPOSED REF A EXCEPT FOR POSITIONS B AND D AND CONTINUE RECOMMEND APPROVAL PROPOSED POSITIONS (2), (4) AND (5) REF B. OUR RECOMMENDATIONS WITH REGARD TO RANK REMAIN PER REF B.
STOLTZFUS

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